[Mr. C. O. Madhavan.]

Rate of tree-tax per half year in

	Travancore. Bh. Rs.	as.	ps.	Cochin. Bh. Rs.	as.	ps.
Cocoanut ...	4	0	0	4	0	0
Palmyra ...	2	0	0	1	8	0
Choondapana ...	8	0	0	8	0	0

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Does the member know the rate of tree-tax in the Madras Presidency?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I have not got the figures with me now.

Revenue from arrack shops for the last two contract periods.

68. MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing the revenue realised during the last two biennial contract periods from

(*a*) the rent of arrack shops; and

(*b*) the Excise duty on arrack?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: A statement containing the required information is placed on the table.

(*a*) Rent of arrack shops.

Year.	Amount Rs.	chs.	c.
1104	5,33,318	11	5
1105	5,28,014	8	1
1106	3,83,267	10	6
1107	2,98,705	16	0
(*b*) Duty on arrack.			
1104	6,62,507	22	1
1105	6,02,228	17	7
1106	4,13,776	19	11
1107	3,04,253	8	8

Trees tapped during the last two contract periods.

69. MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the number of trees tapped during the last two biennial contract periods?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: A statement containing the required information is placed on the table.

Statement showing the number of trees tapped during the last two biennial contract periods.

Year.	Number of trees tapped. Cocoanut	Palmyra	Choondapana
1104	98,844	14,152	21,392
1105	93,290	14,169	21,027
1106	61,644	13,729	11,514
1107	56,307	13,326	11,144

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MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the member be pleased to state whether more free licenses are given for tapping sweet toddy?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I do not know what the member means by '*more*'.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Whether there is any instruction issued by the department to give more free licenses for tapping sweet toddy?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: We have sweet toddy rules, and license rates issued under those rules.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Are there no instructions given?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: There are rules and when applications are received licenses will be issued under the rules.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know how many applications are pending now?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I claim notice.

Detection of offences by officers of the Excise Department.

70. MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: With reference to the statement "The fall.....is attributed to the better preventive work turned out by the departmental officers" appearing under detection of offences in the G. O. reviewing the report of the Excise Department for the years 1104 and 1105, will the Government be pleased to state the action taken by them against the departmental officers for not turning out such preventive work during 1106 and 1107?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Government did not take any action against any officer, because in the opinion of Government there was no neglect of duty on the part of any officer.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know from the member whether from the view expressed in the reports for 1104 and 1105 which is stated in the question, Government think that the officers are vigilant?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: That is what the Government think.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: May I know from the member, the reasons, if any, that made Government change the principle upon which vigilance in work is being judged?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Crimes are not always increasing or decreasing. Crimes may rise or fall.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Sir, that is not my question. May I know from the member the reasons, if any, which prompted Government to change their former decision, that is, the fall was attributed formerly to the better preventive work turned out by the departmental officers? May I know why the Government changed their opinion which they formed during the last two years?

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